

wherein the R¹ substituent independently for each position is H or an alkyl group having 1 to 5 carbon atoms, the R⁴ substituent independently for each position is an alkyl group having 1 to 5 carbon atoms or an aryl group, e and g are independently 1 to 10, and f is 1 to 50.

REMARKS

At the outset, Applicants wish to acknowledge the courtesies and assistance extended by the Examiner to the undersign during the Examiner Interview of March 12, 2003. The Examiner's efforts in expediting resolution of all matters herein is gratefully appreciated.

In the Office Action, the Examiner required that Applicants elect for prosecution one of the inventions among Groups I-IV for the reasons noted. In this regard, concerning an initial formal matter, claims 29, 32, 35, 38, 41 and 44 are classified in Group II, whereas they are thought to properly be within Group III together with their antecedent claim 19.^{1/}

Nonetheless, in response, Applicants hereby elect to prosecute the invention of Group I, containing copied claim 46, in order to expedite forwarding this case to the Patent and Trademark Office Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences.

As requested during the Examiner Interview, Applicants have above amended claim 46 to include "Z" in the aromatic structure, consistent with specification

^{1/} Claims 32 is also listed in both groups II and III, and claim 35 is not mentioned as "pending" on form PTO-326.

page 5, line 15. Claim 46 has also been amended to correct syntax errors that the Examiner noted. The errors, and their corrections, are plain to those of ordinary skill. Accordingly, no new matter has been added.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that all of the Examiner's concerns are now overcome and the claims are now in allowable condition. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of this application is earnestly solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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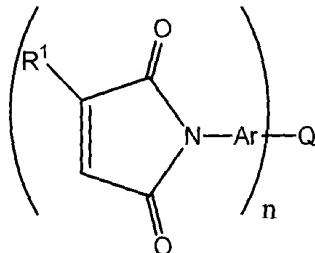
FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE TO CLAIMS

46. (Amended) A curable composition comprising a maleimide compound,

and a curing initiator selected from the group consisting of a free-radical initiator, a photoinitiator, and a combination of those,

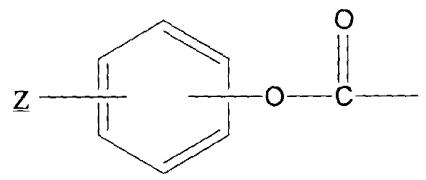
the maleimide compound having the formula:



wherein n is 1 to 3,

R¹ is H or an alkyl group having 1 to 5 carbon atoms;

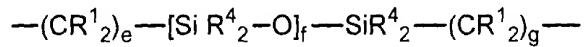
Ar is an aromatic group having the structure:



wherein Z is a high molecular weight branched chained alkyl, alkylene or alkylene oxide species having from about 12 to about 500 atoms in its backbone; and

Q is a linear or branched chain alkyl, alkyloxy, alkylene, or alkyleneoxy, species having up to about 100 atoms in the chain, which may contain saturated or unsaturated cyclic or heterocyclic substituents pendant from the chain or as part of the chain and in which any heteroatom present may or may not be directly attached to Ar; or

Q is a siloxane having the structure:



wherein[:] the R¹ substituent independently for each position is H or an alkyl group having 1 to 5 carbon atoms, the R⁴ substituent independently for each position is an alkyl group having 1 to 5 carbon atoms or an aryl group, e and g are independently 1 to 10, and f is 1 to 50.